

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2007

Present:	Kerry Harris	Chair
	Eileen Nolan	Associate Director Maternity Services
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Lesley Howick	Clinical Manager, Labour Ward & In-Patient Services
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor
	Emma Alderman	Notetaker/PA to ADMS
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Theresa Spink	Clinical Manager, Community & Out-Patient Services
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member
	Audrey Elmore	Matron NICU/TCR
	Angela Knapp	Antenatal Screening Coordinator
	Janet Lambley	Public Health Team Leader Surrey PCT
	Wendy Deshpande	Health Visitor

Apologies:	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Trisha Whisker	NCT
	Frances Harvey	Lay member
	Kim McHarg	Breastfeeding Specialist Midwife
	Brenda Walton	Senior Ultrasonographer
	Nicola North	NCT

1 Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. All minutes of meetings are to be put on the teams drive for staff access.

EA

KH welcomed Janet as a new member to the group, introductions were given.

EN fed back to the group that there has only been one complaint regarding the new format for the tours. Unfortunately there has been a slight delay in the production of the virtual tour DVD, but this should be ready any day. It was suggested that photos of the labour ward are placed in the main waiting area so women get an idea of the ward environment. TS is to ask Rose Cooper for the pictures used in previous tours

TS

2. Matters Arising

- Weighing of Women in USS department

It appears that some women are still being weighed in USS to ensure that the correct type of scanning couch is used. It has emerged that the information regarding weight collected at booking can be inaccurate due to differing data collection methods. TS is to follow up with the community midwives and ensure

that a consistent approach is being used, and women are being weighed with permission. **TS**

- Staffing

Following a business case for an extra 12wte midwifery posts being submitted to the Trust, 9wte posts were agreed. There will be 3 to commence July and 6 in September.

3. Presentation of Maternity Statistics

EN presented to the group data from the financial year 2006/07 (see attached copy of presentation).

It was clarified that any delivery after 24weeks gestation is classed as a registerable birth.

Points to note are -

- increase in multiple births and waterbirths
- dramatic increase in the birth rate within the last 5 years
- an increase of 7200 births in the last 5 years for the south east coast but there has been no new funding.
- SPH LSCS rate has increased slightly since 2003 due to the introduction of the Level 3 Neonatal Unit, changing the acuity of the unit

The DOH have launched a Focus on Caesarean Section toolkit aimed at reducing the CS rate and increasing normal midwifery. The toolkit focuses on 10 key characteristics in units that have a low CS rate. An allocated team have attended training on how to use the toolkit and are feeding back to the unit.

The instrumental birth figures were broken down to 195 forceps, 368 ventouse and 1 Keillands forceps delivery.

It was discussed that almost 1/3 of planned primigravida homebirths were brought into the unit. This a joint decision between the woman and midwife mainly due to the length of labour or for post dates induction.

4. Maternity Matters Report

This is a report from the Department of Health that promises by 2009 there will be 4 key choices available to women regarding maternity care. These are

- How maternity care can be accessed
- Choice of type of antenatal care received
- Place of birth
- Choice of place for postnatal care

There are few problems in facilitating these choices in practice although with no additional funding or establishment, staffing could be an issue. EN attended a meeting with the SHA and DOH to discuss the workforce needed to deliver the key choices, it was discussed that Fit for the Future needs to be taken into consideration. It was suggested that there needs to be a Surrey wide maternity network in place to ensure equality of service provision. This has been suggested to the Surrey PCT to initiate the network and provide funding. The report is available on the internet at www.dh.gov.uk if you have any comments please bring them to the next meeting.

5. Fit for the Future

There are no major new developments. In a briefing from Glenn Douglas 24/05 it was reported that the focus is changing from acute services to community services.

6. Surrey PCT

Welcome to Janet Lambley from Surrey PCT.

7. AOB

Breastfeeding Audit

WD presented to the group an audit she had conducted on breastfeeding in ethnic families. This concentrated on areas such as Sheerwater and Maybury. The audit consisted of 50 women being given questionnaires. The audit showed a 78% BF initiation rate, which by 10 days had dropped to 23% and by 8 weeks to 15%. One of the audit conclusions were that many women were requesting for bottles to top up as they believed they were not producing enough milk. This use of top up was in turn linked to a drastic drop off rate for breastfeeding. In response to the findings a breastfeeding peer support group started last Tuesday. EN fed back that encouraging breastfeeding is an ongoing task for midwives, with mandatory breastfeeding training, a feeding team is being developed and all new maternity assistants are being provided with intensive training as part of their job description. EN will feedback the audit findings at the next staff meeting. TS is to obtain from Evolution the breastfeeding rate for SPH at community discharge.

**EN
TS**

SC was concerned regarding the use of nipple shields and using expressed milk when having never used the breast. This is for further discussion at the next meeting.

Health Care Commission (HCC) Survey

All women that delivered in February will now have received a questionnaire asking about their experiences from prenatal to postnatal care. The maternity services team have received a comprehensive questionnaire to complete and return by 11/07/07. The staff questionnaire was launched last week for completion online. All of the results will be collated and a report issued by November.

Panorama Programme

There has been no mention of the programme by any patients, if any questions do arise please refer them to the maternity services team.

In recent weeks a request for information has been received via the freedom of information act for the channel 5 programme Dispatches. It was suggested that staff hours be able to be claimed for obtaining such data.

Date of next meeting – 9th July 2007